

Minutes - In. Com Feb 14 - 1912 (11)

A meeting of the ~~Incorporation~~ Committee on Incorporation for the Woman's Board was held Wednesday, Feb. 14 ^{10 a.m.} 1912 in the office of the Secretary of the Woman's Board, 136 Fifth Avenue -

There were present Mrs. Brownell, ^{Mrs.} Wallock and Mrs. Fraser, Mrs.raid, ^{and} with messages ^{were received} from Mrs. Mitchell and Miss Holt and a telegram from Mrs. Harrison -

The meeting was opened with prayer by Mrs. Brownell and a brief resume of previous Committee work was given by the Chairman, including statements of lawyers visited and reports from the joint meeting held by Dr. Burrell and the Chairman as to legal opinions.

There was also given the authorization by^{2.}
President and Officers to present an
alternate plan to this Committee and
the recognition of the "Working Plan"
presented by the Secretary of the Assembly's Board
as ~~disclosed~~ in the call for this
meeting. There was also presented

a very full document from three
Officers of the Homeless Board, not previously
included in the business as noted -

The first motion, made by Mrs. Hallock -
and carried was that two distinct statements
be prepared for Annual Meeting, the one
covering Incorporation of the Homeless Board
and the other a statement of a working
plan for the Assembly's Board and the
N. B. H. M.

Taking up revision the working plan as presented by the Secretary of Assembly's Board -

Miss Fraser moved that the introductory paragraph be enlarged to define clearly the position of the Woman's Board - Motion carried

It was moved and carried that Section I be adopted as presented -

Moved and carried that Section II defining scope of Board of Home Missions be passed with the addition of the following

⊕ "And such community work as is done by Bible readers, district nurses or trained workers of any kind whose efforts are of necessity correlated to the work of the pastor and whose work should be under his guidance."

Moved and carried that ~~the~~ paragraph III be amended by the addition of the phrase "and medical work wherever located except as done by district nurses serving as pastor's assistant."

Section IV. 4

Our motion of Mrs. Bromell ~~paragraph~~ as amended was adopted -

By consent Section I was then considered

Moved that inquiries be made if it is the intention ^{to} retain Section 3 of the bylaws of Assembly's Grand in relation to duties of Superintendents of Schools.

Miss Fraser moved the adoption of Section X. After brief recess the session was resumed without Mr. Bromell. Our motion Section I was amended as follows.

There shall be a bi weekly ^{Joint} Office Conference to which conference shall be submitted all questions in which there may be any Joint interest. To this Conference shall also be submitted all important matters needing adjustment on mission fields.

The Recommendations of the Joint Office Conference shall be submitted to the Home Board.

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~~Taking up Section XI. on motion it was~~
~~unanimously decided to read~~

VI There shall be appointed annually a committee consisting of not less than six members, three of them chosen by the Board of Home Missions & three by the Woman's Board who with the Officers of both Boards shall constitute the School Committee - This Committee shall act on all matters pertaining to the School Department including requests for new work not included in the budget, and for aid in excess of the proportional sum named in the Annual.

Budget for such fields -

On motion Section XI. as amended was adopted.

Meeting then adjourned Subject to further call -

James Francis Day -

Present: Miss Fraser, Miss Fish, Mrs. Giffersleeve,
Miss Petrie, Mr. Allaben.

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GENERAL PLAN FOR FIELD SUPERVISION.

1. Two Field Superintendents - salary \$2,500. -Office -\$600.
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Mountain Field | Headquarters Asheville. |
| 2. Western Field | Albuquerque. |
11. Two District Superintendents - Salary \$1,800.
- | |
|---|
| 1. Cuba - Head of Guines Schools and
Supt. of all other work. |
| 2. Porto Rico - Head of Mayaguez School &
Supt. of all other work. |
111. Independent Stations.
- | |
|---|
| 1. Good Will. |
| 2. Wolf Point. |
| 3. Stations in California and Washington. |
| 4. Sitka. |

Duties.

1. To conduct all local correspondence, adjusting all questions which do not require action on the part of the Board or the Superintendent of Schools.
2. To make regular visits to all schools and stations.
3. To exercise constructive supervision (rather than to investigate troubles and compose dissensions).
4. To co-ordinate the schools of the Women's Board with the evangelical efforts of the Church by keeping in close touch with the various synods, presbyteries and committees interested.
5. To assemble the present unrelated units of our work into a ^{from} co-ordinate whole both ~~for~~ the pedagogical and social viewpoint.
6. To visit all reports from schools and stations and all requisitions in excess of pro rata allowance.
7. To make monthly reports to the Superintendent of Schools.
8. The Field Supt. and District Supts. to attend an Annual Conference in New York, to assist in the preparation of the Annual Budget and to plan the campaign for the new fiscal year, this Conference to be held in March.

9. To recommend candidates both for original appointment and reappointment.
10. To audit all school accounts and supervise building operations, negotiate sales, leases and be generally responsible for all property matters.

Advantages.

1. The substitution of actual for nominal supervision.
2. The enactment of a co-ordinated system of school and community work in place of the present system of un-assembled and unrelated units.
3. The elimination of the main cause of friction between churches and schools and the substitution therefor of a broad, sympathetic, aggressive Christian policy of harmonious endeavor to promote the common aim.
4. The establishment of a vital connection between Headquarters and the Field which would keep the Board constantly and reliably informed as to actual conditions and make possible that intelligent planning of campaigns and policies which requires a basis of indisputable and clearly presented facts.
5. Economy of system is unquestionable. Saving in care of property alone would be large. Saving in teachers' traveling expenses would not be inconsiderable. The elimination of the office of Assistant Supt. and a reduction of the force in School Department would provide

salary and office expenses of one field. Moreover it is doubtful if there would be a large increase in administrative traveling expenses, as half rates would be applicable to these officers and much of travel done under present system would be avoided.

- 6./ The Supt. of Schools would be relieved of a large amount of detail which cannot be done effectively in the home office, and he would thus be able to devote his time almost exclusively to the consideration of the larger questions of administration and policy which require that careful investigation which is not possible under present system.

The Superintendent should serve as an effective medium through which the field is brought into close touch with the Board, and this would be possible under system of field supervision, but it is wholly impossible under present system.

It was unanimously Voted -

First. That this plan as a whole be approved by the Office Conference, with the understanding that changes in details might be deemed advisable on further examination.

Second. That Mr. Allaben should take up the plan with Dr. Thompson, Secretary of the Home Board, stating that this plan is approved by the officers of the Woman's Board including Mrs. Bennett, the President.

Meeting of Committee on Incorporation of Woman's Board of Home Missions was held April 4th, 1912 in office of Secretary at 156 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. Those present were Mesdames Waid, Brownell, Hallock and Miss Fraser.

Mrs. Waid called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. Hallock to offer prayer.

Mrs. Waid read a letter from Miss Sue B. Scott of Kentucky, reported verbally from Mrs. J. K. Mitchell of Michigan but no word had been read from Mrs. Harbison of Pennsylvania, who is at present in California.

The Chairman reported verbally that immediately upon the adjournment of the Committee Meeting, March she had written Congressman Bennett asking for his written legal opinion regarding Incorporation of the Woman's Board. He had replied that such opinion would be ready by the date the Chairman requested, viz. April 1st. As the Chairman did not hear from him on that date, she telephoned him, only to be told that it would be impossible for him to prepare the legal opinion he had promised.

Through personal influence only, the Chairman was able to secure an interview with Mr. Bovee of the firm Woodford, Bovee and Butcher. She verbally reported to the Committee on Incorporation that Mr. Bovee confirmed all the other opinions she had received and further said ~~a question~~ ^{that he said} a question of this kind should be referred to a specialist on ecclesiastical law and said there was none greater in the United States than Mr. John S. Parsons. Mrs. Waid stated that Mr. Parsons had already submitted to the Secretary of the Assembly's Bd.

a written opinion on the Incorporation of the Woman's Board.

- 1 Mrs. Hallock moved that "the Committee on Incorporation request from the Secretary of the Assembly's Board a copy of said opinion."

Seconded by Mrs. Brownell. Carried.

A communication was at this time received from the Secretary of the Assembly's Board and read; also at this time the Chairman read the entire paper prepared by the President of the Woman's Board, with such minor alterations as had been adopted by the Office Conference of the Woman's Board, and stated such paper had been sent by Office Conference with request for favorable consideration.

- 11 Mrs. Hallock moved that the preamble to the statement submitted by the Secretary of Assembly's Board be as follows:- "The Woman's Board is a responsible, producing administrative Board under the general guidance of the Assembly's Board and the General Assembly. It is a component part of that complex whole known as the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., has its fixed responsibilities as to fields of labor and the administration of its office and field work. It also has its authorized powers for securing funds and its national organization of Women's Synodical, Presbyterian and local societies."

Moved by Mrs. Brownell, seconded by Mrs. Hallock.

Section IV of the "Working Plan" was then amended as follows: the phrase "not later than" was stricken out; "in February" was inserted and order of last clause changed to read "to the School Committee and Woman's Board in time for submission to the Home Board at its Annual Meeting."

III The section was passed as amended on motion of Mrs. Brownell, seconded by Mrs. Hallock.

Section V was changed to read as recommended by Office Conference in paper prepared by President of Woman's Board as follows:- "There shall be a bi-weekly Joint Office Conference to which Conference shall be submitted all questions in which there may be any joint interest. To this Conference shall also be submitted all important matters needing adjustment on mission fields. The recommendation of the Joint Office Conference shall be submitted to the Woman's Board.

IV The section as amended was approved on motion of Mrs. Brownell, seconded by Mrs. Hallock.

Sections VI, VII, VIII & IX all relate to the Treasury Department and as the Treasurer of the Board of Home Missions is expected back in the office in a short time it was deemed wise to defer any action on treasury recommendations. It was also desired to call in for consultation Miss Fish, Mr. Banks and Mr. Adams. It was also suggested that Mr. Allaben be invited to present in person to the committee the reasons for field supervision, as outlined in paper prepared by President of the Woman's Board.

VI A motion was therefore made to defer action on
treasury matters until later.

Motion to adjourn for luncheon.

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Committee reconvened at 2.30 and heard Mr. Allaben outline fully a plan for field supervision, which had been presented to the Office Conference of the Woman's Board and informally to the Secretary of the Assembly's Board. After Mr. Allaben withdrew, the following motion offered by Mrs. Brownell, seconded by Mrs. Hallock, was **passed:-**

VII "To establish work in the mission fields is of comparative simplicity. To properly supervise, develop and co-ordinate this work is more difficult. Long range supervision from New York to the distant fields must be more or less nominal but the appointment of field superintendents would provide an effective medium through which fields might be brought into close touch with the Board, therefore, we recommend for the testing of this plan the appointment of a superintendent for the Mountain field, the salary, the duties of such superintendent to be adjusted by the Committee on Appointments."

Mr. Banks and Mr. Adams were invited to meet the Committee; it was deeply regretted that Miss Fish's absence from the office, made necessary because of her address before the Annual Meeting of the New York Presbyterian Society, pre-

vented her being present at this time. Mr. Banks and Mr. Adams answered many questions suggested by sections VI and VII, gave much valuable information and stated that the new method of work in the treasury office of the Woman's Board was giving perfect satisfaction. These gentlemen answered many questions but the treasury plan, as outlined in the paper prepared by the President of the Woman's Board, was not presented to them. After they withdrew the following motion was made by Miss Fraser, seconded by Mrs. Halllock, carried:-

- IX "That the Assembly's Board be requested that whenever and wherever the form of bequest by which it may receive legacies or residuary gifts be printed, these announcements be followed by the form of bequest by which the Woman's Board may legally receive similar gifts."

Committee adjourned to meet following morning at nine o'clock.

~~Julia Fraser~~ *Julia Fraser*
Secretary.

Final Reports and Papers
As to Committee on
Incorporation - Annual
Meeting - May 1912.

Eva Haid -

Compare with Minutes of the
Report of Executive
Meeting -

Ed. H. H.

1912

In presenting this report of the Committee on Incorporation - it may be well to refresh our minds as to the history preceding the work of this present Committee -

Various queries and ~~expressions of~~ demands concerning the legal status of the so called Woman's Board of Home Missions, having been presented through several years, it was finally deemed wise that the matter be taken up in the Executive Meeting at the Annual Meeting in Atlantic City, in May, 1910 - At that time a Committee was appointed consisting of Mrs. Tarbison, Mrs. Hayes, & Mrs. Richard. Mrs. Hayes not being willing to serve - Mrs. Brumell was appointed in her stead.

This Committee consulted legal advisors and sought other counsel and in April ¹⁹¹¹ presented to the Board of Home Missions a list of questions to be answered - The Board, feeling the matters too weighty for an immediate answer the Committee was unable to return a complete report to the appointing body - the Annual Meeting, at the Session held in Atlantic City, May 1911 -

The partial report, however, received very full and free discussion and as a result of this the following action was conveyed - That a Committee of eleven be appointed - the same to be composed of one member from each of the following Boards of Home Missions in New York, one administrative officer and four members from the General Board, that such committee be for the purpose of conference with the Assembly's Board and with other organizations as may be necessary - That such Committee be instructed by this executive session.

which might
arise of emergencies arising in the year
which would elapse before another Annual
Meeting - The following motion also was
carried - "That the Committee report in the
interim to the Woman's Board of Home Missions for
instruction and direction -"

Later the instructions given the Committee were, by
motion, the following,

"That this Committee study and enquire into
the matter of incorporation and report to this meeting
next year" -

Under date of June 6-1891 - the following
Committee was appointed by the President,
Mrs. Haid, Mrs. Bromell, Miss Fraser, Mrs.
Harrison, Mrs. Mitchell, Miss Scott, Mrs. Darling
(Later Mrs. Darlington - not being willing to serve,
Mrs. Hollock was appointed)

On June 15: The Board of Home Missions
Appointed the following Committee "to
Cooperate with the Committee on
Incorporation appointed by the Roman Board of Home Missions"
Dr. Dodge (ex officio). Dr. Burrell, Dr. Cook, Mr.
Arell, Mrs. Jessup, Dr. Thompson -

On Request of the Roman Board Committee,
our President Mrs. F. S. Bennett has also
given ^{the right} ~~power~~ to sit with the Joint Committee -
~~Four~~ meetings of this Joint Committee have
been held, five meetings of the Committee
of the Roman Board, one meeting of the
Joint Chairman as a Sub Committee, one
meeting of sub-committee with Treasurers -
The Chairman of your Committee has
held one Conference with assembled officers
of Roman Board, separate Conference
with each officer and a number of

informal conferences with the President of the
Roman Board & the Secretary of the Board of
Home Missions - She has had interviews with
five lawyers and two written ^{legal} opinions -
Statements have been furnished freely by the
Treasurer of the Home Board and hearty
cooperation given by its officers and those
of the Roman Board.
Most devoted service has been rendered
by the Committee, even those compelled by
distance to be absent, carefully communicating
^{their opinions} by correspondence or even by telegram -
The long continued illness of the Pres.
of the Roman Board and the Treasurer of
the Board of Home Missions, have certainly
delay and difficulty in securing a
complete ^{information} ~~report~~ and consequent delay in
making ready a complete Committee report.

Acting under the ~~authority~~ ^{authority} of the President
and by the ~~authority~~ of herself and the
other Officers of the Transatlantic Board the
Committee ^{was empowered to} hereby presents in its
Report - two plans or sets of reformation -
The first as to what is detailed in
incorporation -
The second a working plan for closer
unity -